

Minutes of a Regular Council Meeting of Clearwater County, Province of Alberta, held November 25, 2014 in the Clearwater County Council Chambers in Rocky Mountain House.

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Meeting was called to order at 9:02 A.M. by Deputy Reeve Graham with the following being present:

Deputy Reeve:	Earl Graham
Councillors:	Curt Maki
	Jim Duncan
	Kyle Greenwood
	John Vandermeer
CAO:	Ron Leaf
Director, Public Works:	Marshall Morton
Director, CPS	Ted Hickey
Recording Secretary:	Tracy Haight
Staff:	Erik Hansen
	Brad Welygan
	Rhonda Serhan
	Kurt Magnus
Media:	Sarah Maetche
	Dania Gravelle
	Helge Nome
Public:	Dennis Ross

**AGENDA  
APPROVAL:**

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That the November 25, 2014 Regular Meeting Agenda be accepted.

436/14 CARRIED 5/0

**CONFIRMATION  
OF MINUTES:**

**1. November 12, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes**

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That the Minutes of the November 12, 2014 Regular Meeting be accepted.

437/14 CARRIED 5/0

**PUBLIC  
WORKS:**

**1. Tender Award: Nordegg Lower Stuart Street**

Erik Hansen stated administration tendered the Lower Stuart Street Lot Servicing and Laneway project which includes the construction of approximately 460m of road, installation of three sanitary and water services, surface works, and landscaping.

Administration received one bid at the November 4 tender opening from Pidherney's Inc. at a cost of \$695,800.00. This amount is \$29,200 less than the engineer's estimated amount.

Mr. Hansen explained Administration did not expect many bidders due to the size, location, and the varied work of the project. Marshall Morton noted upon consideration, Administration determined there would be no value in retendering the project and Administration is confident that although only one bid was received, it is adequate.

Mr. Hansen noted the project is scheduled for 2015 and should Council approve the tender award, the 2015 budget will be adjusted to reflect the current tender pricing.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That Council awards the Lower Stuart Street Lot Servicing and Laneway project tender to Pidherney's Inc.

438/14

CARRIED 5/0

Brad Welygan left the meeting.

**2. Verbal Report: November 19 Meeting with Alberta Transportation**

Marshall Morton reported on items of concern discussed with Alberta Transportation (AT) at the November 19 meeting as follows:

1. Highway 11 and Range Road 7-3A Intersection –  
AT reviewed crash data for this intersection and determined there was only one accident due to wildlife in the last five years. AT agreed to monitor the intersection; consider effects of any future development in the area on traffic safety; and determine suitable options.
2. Highway 22, Highway 11, and Township Road 40-0 Intersection –  
AT is not committed to any changes to this intersection at this time or in the future, however they will assess traffic volumes to determine if any changes are merited due to future growth in the area. Consequently, Clearwater County will conduct a traffic assessment and develop an intermunicipal development plan which AT will review.
3. Village of Caroline Highway 54 Asphalt Overlay –  
AT has scheduled this project for 2015, however may reschedule for 2016 or 2017.
4. Fire Departments Handling Traffic Control and Clean Up at Highway Accidents –  
AT will review the response of highway maintenance contractors at the scene of a highway accident.
5. Municipal Gravel Pit Operations –  
AT will review requirements for operating municipal owned gravel pits.

Discussion followed on expectation of support from the provincial government; potential of downloading funding to municipalities; and highway improvement projects.

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That Council accepts the information as presented.

439/14

CARRIED 5/0

Erik Hansen, Kurt Magnus, and Marshall Morton left the meeting.

**4. Request for Support – Clearwater Forest Recreational Trail Initiative**

Ron Leaf provided background information on the request from the Clearwater Forest Recreational Trail Initiative Committee for administrative support. Councillor Duncan noted in addition to recording of meeting minutes, support would include bookkeeping services starting next year.

Mr. Leaf stated this level of support is not expected to increase Administration's current workload by any significant amount.

COUNCILLOR GREENWOOD: That Council approves Clearwater Forest Recreational Trail Initiative Committee's request for administrative support and bookkeeping services.

440/14

CARRIED 5/0

**5. Verbal Report: November 18 Meeting with Services Alberta and November 20 Meeting with Alberta Ag & Rural Development**

Ted Hickey reported on items of concern discussed with Service Alberta and representatives from AXIA regarding internet connectivity and capacity in rural municipalities.

Mr. Hickey noted discussions included progress reports on access and connectivity to SuperNet Fiber in rural areas, funding requirements, and allowing connection of municipal owned fiber optics to the SuperNet.

Discussion followed and Council noted the development of a lobby strategy with AAMDC and involvement with the Alberta Rural Communication Association is important to move this issue forward in a timely manner.

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That Council accepts the information as presented.

441/14

CARRIED 5/0

MUNICIPAL:

**1. Verbal Report: November 12 Meeting with Rural Health Services Review Committee**

Ron Leaf stated representatives from Nordegg, Rocky Chamber of Commerce, Physician Recruitment Committee, Rocky Mountain House Health Centre and Clinic, and Clearwater County met with the Rural Health Services Review Committee and Alberta Health Services to discuss issues of concern with rural health care. The representatives noted the high level of cooperation between municipalities in Clearwater County; highlighted accomplishments and initiatives undertaken in the community; addressed funding requirements for the Physician Recruitment program; and the need for a new hospital. Examples of community engagement, such as the use of the Nordegg public services building, were noted.

The Review Committee noted the diverse representation, successful community engagement, and appreciated the level of involvement of the community.

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That Council accepts the information as presented.

442/14

CARRIED 5/0

**2. Policy Review – Final: Clearwater County Vehicle and Equipment Use Policy**

Ron Leaf presented the draft “Clearwater County Vehicle and Equipment Use” policy for Council’s review.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That Council adopts the “Clearwater County Vehicle and Equipment Use” policy as presented.

443/14

CARRIED 5/0

**3. Written Response from Blaine Calkins, MP Wetaskiwin**

Council discussed the response submitted by Blaine Calkins, MP Wetaskiwin to Council’s November 12 briefing note. Council noted benefits in extending an invitation to meet with Blake Richards, MP Wild Rose; Jim Eglinski, MP Yellowhead; and Blaine Calkins, MP Wetaskiwin, at first opportunity next year.

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That Council extends an invitation to meet with Members of Parliament from Wild Rose, Yellowhead, and Wetaskiwin constituencies at first opportunity in 2015.

444/14 CARRIED 5/0

Whitney Sosnoski, Keith McCrae and Marilyn Sanders joined the meeting.

PLANNING: 1. **TABLED ITEM: CP Rail – Alhambra – NW 9 39 5 W5M**

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That Council removes CP Rail – Alhambra – NW 9 39 5 W5M agenda item from the table.

445/14 CARRIED 5/0

Marilyn Sanders provided background information on the disposal and proposed subdivision of the rail right of way in the Hamlet of Alhambra. Ms. Sanders stated as per Council’s request, a site inspection was completed by the Public Works and Planning departments to determine suitability of lot development. Based on the inspection, Public Works and Planning suggest six options for Council’s consideration:

- 1. Consolidate 12 metres of land north of the adjacent properties and create three new residential parcels.
- 2. Consolidate 25 metres of land north of the adjacent properties and retain remaining land as green space.
- 3. Consolidate all land north of the Church; consolidate 12 metres of land north of the adjacent properties and create one new residential parcel.
- 4. Consolidate all land with the each of the three existing properties.
- 5. Consolidate 25 metres of land north of the Church with the existing property; consolidate 12 metres of land north of the adjacent properties and create one new residential lot; retain remaining land north of the church as green space.
- 6. Lease 25 meters of land to the church and retain remainder of land under County ownership.

Erik Hansen and Marshall Morton joined the meeting.

Discussion followed and Administration responded to questions from Council regarding drainage issues. Mr. Leaf provided rationale for Option 6 and explained this option accommodates the church’s requirements and allows for future lot development.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That Council approves lease of 25 meters of CP Rail right of way NW 9 39 5 W5M to Cornerstone Christian Fellowship Church and retains remainder of land under County ownership.

446/14 CARRIED 4/1

S/Sgt. Bill Laidlaw, Cst. Mike Numan, and Wade Colwell joined the meeting. Whitney Sosnoski, Marilyn Sanders, Keith McCrae, Marshall Morton, and Erik Hansen left the meeting.

**COMMUNITY &  
PROTECTIVE  
SERVICES:**

**1. Verbal Report: Presented by S/Sgt Bill Laidlaw**

S/Sgt. Bill Laidlaw provided statistics from the Detailed Crime Report for Clearwater County up to September 2014. S/Sgt. Laidlaw noted the increase in crimes against persons include domestic violence incidents.

Kurt Magnus left the meeting.

S/Sgt. Laidlaw responded to questions from Council and explained the process involved in handling domestic violence incidents and noted the RCMP treat these incidents seriously. S/Sgt. explained offence classification and noted increase in thefts.

Eleanor Pengelly and Dustin Bisson joined the meeting.

S/Sgt. Laidlaw announced three new positions have been added to the Rocky RCMP detachment, which he attributes in part to successful lobby efforts of the Town, County and Village Councils. The additional positions will provide alternatives for services and scheduling to meet community needs.

S/Sgt. Laidlaw thanked Council for their past and continued support.

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That Council accepts the information as presented.

**447/14**

CARRIED 5/0

S/Sgt. Laidlaw and Cst. Numan left the meeting.

**2. Verbal Report: Nordegg FireSmart Program – Wade Colwell**

Wade Colwell, Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development (ESRD), provided an update on the Nordegg Fire Smart program. Mr. Colwell noted ESRD is using a mulching process in parts of the area around Nordegg to control the risk of forest fires.

Mr. Colwell explained the rational, benefits and drawbacks of mulching and responded to questions from Council regarding ESRD's expected results using this process.

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That Council accepts the information as presented.

**448/14**

CARRIED 5/0

Eleanor Pengelly and Dustin Bisson left the meeting. Kevin Warren and Aaron Rognvaldson joined the meeting.

**3. Parkland Air Management Zone**

Katie Lutz joined the meeting.

Kevin Warren, Executive Director of Parkland Airshed Management Zone (PAMZ) introduced Aaron Rognvaldson, PAMZ Chair, to Council.

Mr. Warren thanked Council for their past and continued support and presented the Annual Report to Council detailing PAMZ activities.

Dennis Ross left the meeting.

Discussion followed and Mr. Rognvaldson responded to questions from Council regarding emission levels of Husky operations in the area. Mr.

Rognvaldson noted levels are stabilized, due in part to use of existing infrastructure. Mr. Warren responded to questions from Council regarding the provincial mandate for air monitoring, collaboration between PAMZ and the Alberta Environmental Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting Association (AEMERA), and PAMZ's funding sources.

COUNCILLOR GREENWOOD: That Council accepts the information as presented.

449/14 CARRIED 5/0

Kevin Warren, Aaron Rognvaldson, Katie Lutz, Helge Nome and Ted Hickey left the meeting.

**INFORMATION:**

Ron Leaf presented an invitation from the Rocky Native Friendship Centre (RNFC) to attend community consultations regarding the development of urban Aboriginal community plans. Mr. Leaf noted should Council approve participation in principal, clarification is required on attendance by administration or an elected official.

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That Council authorizes Councillor Duncan's, or alternate, attendance at the community consultation session on urban Aboriginal community plans on December 10.

450/14 CARRIED 5/0

Ron Leaf suggested rescheduling the December 09 Regular Council Meeting to start at 9:30 A.M. so as to allow more time to meet with the Rocky Chamber of Commerce during their breakfast meeting.

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That Council reschedules the December 09 Regular meeting to start at 9:30 A.M.

451/14 CARRIED 5/0

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That Council accepts the CAO Report, Public Works Director's Report, Accounts Payable Listing and Councillor Remuneration as information.

452/14 CARRIED 5/0

**COMMITTEE  
REPORT:**

**Verbal Report: November 13 Meeting re Community Consultation on Housing**

Councillor Duncan provided a synopsis on the community consultation session for affordable housing that he attended on November 13. Councillor Duncan noted although the session was productive and informative, it was more applicable to an urban centres as affordable housing is usually provided by multiunit developments.

Helge Nome joined the meeting.

Councillor Duncan noted Clearwater County's Land Use policy and Municipal Development Plan currently facilitates affordable housing in the rural area thru gifted first-parcel-out and compassionate care provisions. However, there may be opportunity to consider expanding options for affordable housing in the County thru a review of the policy and plan and the creation of

housing boards. Councillor Duncan noted public education, support to allow for home ownership, and involvement of property developers are important to affordable housing programs.

Councillor Duncan suggested as this project may continue over the next five years, Council and/or Administration should monitor this issue.

Discussion followed on workings of a housing authority board and lack of housing for the labour market in the community.

COUNCILLOR GREENWOOD: That Council accepts the Committee Report as presented for information.

453/14

CARRIED 5/0

ADJOURNMENT:  
11:45 A.M.

COUNCILLOR LAING: That the Meeting adjourns.

454/14

CARRIED 5/0



DEPUTY REEVE

  
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER